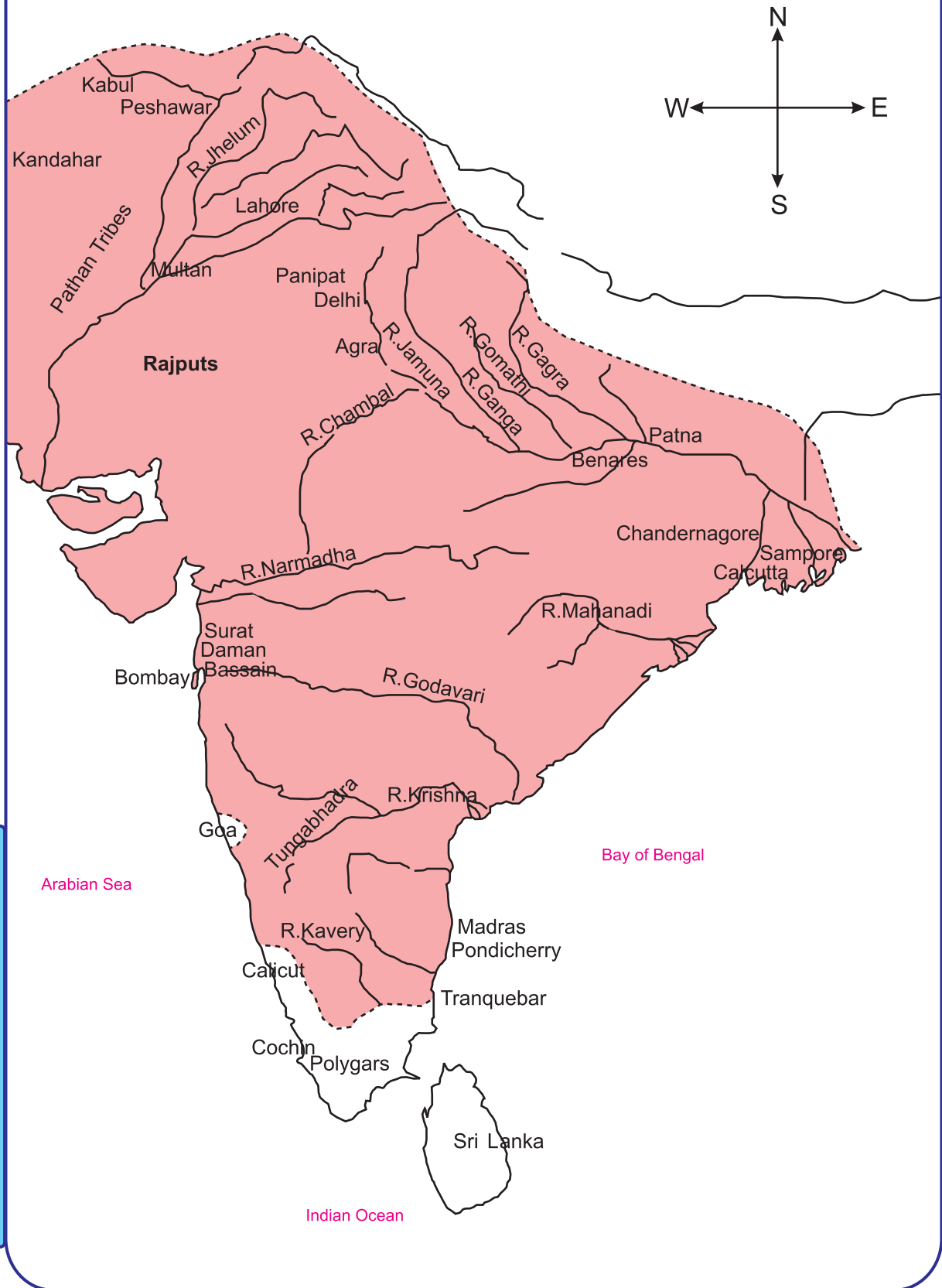


# Empire of Aurangzeb



SOCIAL SCIENCE

Subas. The Subas were further divided into Sarkars and Sarkar into "Parganas. Village was the lowest unit of provincial administration.

### Revenue Administration

The main source of income of the state was land revenue. Raja Todar Mal, the famous Revenue Minister helped Akbar in this field. He had already worked under Shershah. Akbar made improvement on Shershah's land revenue system. Mainly due to this Shershah had been called as the "Fore runner of Akbar. Akbar introduced "Zabti" system. All the lands were measured with an uniform standard of measurement. On the basis of the fertility of the soil and the yield of the crops, lands were classified into three categories. One third of the average yield was fixed as the land tax. It could be paid either in cash or in kind. In times of famine or floods, tax remissions were given. The officers were instructed to be kind with the peasants.

### Military Administration

The Mughal army consisted of infantry, artillery, cavalry and elephantry. Cavalry was an important branch of the army. Akbar introduced a new system called "Mansabdari system" "Mansab" means "rank" or "place". Each mansab was valued on the basis of the number of horsemen they had. There was a grade of Mansabdars. It ranged from 10 to 10,000 mansab. Besides horses, they were to maintain foot soldiers also. The

mansabdars were to help the emperor in times of war. In return for their help they were given fixed salary.

### Judicial Administration

The king was the fountain-head of justice. He was assisted by the Chief Qazi. Cases were tried according to Quaranic Law. Punishments were severe. Mutilation was an ordinary punishment.

### Causes for the downfall of the Mughal Empire

Aurangzeb's religious policy was the most important cause for the downfall of the Mughal Empire. His ill-treatment of the Hindus, the Rajputs and the Sikhs made them as the deadly enemies against the Mughals. The Mughal Empire became vast, it was very difficult for the Mughal rulers to control the distant parts of the empire. So revolts broke out in many parts. The successors of Aurangzeb were very weak. They could not check the disintegration of the empire. The absence of the law of primogeniture was another cause for the downfall of the empire. After the death of each mughal emperor, there was a war of succession among his sons, and it paved the way for their own downfall. There was deterioration and demoralization in the Mughal army.

The soldiers cared more about their personal benefits than winning the battles. The Marathas emerged powerful under the dynamic

leadership of Shivaji and proved to be the dead enemies of the Mughals. The coming of the Europeans also paved the way for the deterioration of the Mughal empire. Last, but not the least, the invasions of **Nadir Shah** and **Ahmad Shah Abdali** gave a serious blow to the already tottering Mughal Empire.

The mighty Mughal dynasty founded by Babur, consolidated by Akbar began to disintegrate even during the reign of Aurangzeb. Thus the Mughal Dynasty came to an end.

### EXERCISE

#### I) Choose the correct answer.

- The first Battle of Panipat was fought in A.D \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) 1536                      b) 1526                      c) 1506
- Sher shah has been called as the "Fore-runner of \_\_\_\_\_".  
a) Akbar                      b) Humayun                      c) Shah Jahan
- \_\_\_\_\_ set up a "chain of Justice"  
a) Aurangzeb                      b) Jahangir                      c) Babur
- Guru Arjun dev was the \_\_\_\_\_ Sikh guru  
a) Fifth                      b) ninth                      c) tenth

#### II) Fill in the blanks.

- Humayun means \_\_\_\_\_.
- In the Second Battle of panipat, Akbar defeated \_\_\_\_\_.
- The reign of \_\_\_\_\_ has been called an the "Golden Age of the Mughals"
- Tansen lived in the court of \_\_\_\_\_.

#### III) Match the following.

- |                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Rana Sanga               | 1582           |
| 2. Din-I-Ilahi              | Revenue system |
| 3. Second Battle of Panipat | Ruler of Mewar |
| 4. Raja Todarmal            | 1556           |

#### IV) Answer in one word.

- When was the Battle of Kanwah fought?
- How is Jahangir's Autobiography known as?

3. Who was Akbar's guardian?
4. Who was known as the “light of the world”?

**V) Answer the following questions briefly.**

1. How did Babur establish the Mughal empire in India?
2. Sketch the role of NurJahan in mughal history.
3. Write a note on the currency reforms of Shershah
4. List any four causes for the downfall of the Mughal Empire in India.

**VI) Answer in detail.**

1. Whose period is known as the “Golden Age of the Mughals” – why?
2. Give a brief account on the administration of the Mughals.

**VII) Activity.**

1. Make a visit to the places of historical importance in connection with the Mughal Empire of India.
2. Make an album by collecting pictures of art and architecture of the Mughals.

**VIII) Map work.**

1. On the out line map of India draw the extent of Akbar’s Empire and mark the places conquered by him.
2. On the outline map of India, draw the extent of Aurangazeb's empire and mark the places conquered by him.

**Formative Assessment**

1. Prepare an Album by collecting pictures of Babur to Aurangazeb.
2. Draw a chart on Mughal rulers.
3. Draw a Timeline chart on Important events of the Mughals period.
4. Prepare an album about the wonders of the world.
5. The Taj Mahal, one of the wonders of the world – discuss.
6. Prepare a rotating disk on literary contributions of the Mughals.
7. Anti-reactionary religious policy of Auragazeb resulted in the downfall of Mughal Empire – Discuss in the class room.
8. On the outline map of India, draw the extent of Akbar and Aurangazeb's empires and mark the important places.

## RISE OF THE MARATHAS

Marathas were the people, who lived in the hilly region of Deccan in and around Maharashtra. The physical features of the Maratha region developed certain special qualities among the people. They worked under the Shia kings of the Deccan. The hill forts and the hillocks provided them excellent protection against their enemies. They developed a peculiar type of Warfare called “**Guerilla Warfare**”.

“Guerilla Warfare” means “Irregular Warfare”, whereby the Marathas used to hide amidst the mountains and suddenly make an attack on enemies.

The Marathas had developed hatred against the muslims for their atrocities. The spread of Bhakti Movement created the spirit of oneness among the Marathas. The important leaders of the Bhakti Cult like Tukaram, Ramdass, Eknath and Vaman Pandit taught them the devotion to God and the need to create a strong nation. Under such circumstances, there emerged a strong leader called “**Shivaji**”. Under his leadership, the marathas became strong and resisted the mughals authority.

### **SHIVAJI (A.D. 1627- A.D. 1680)**

Shivaji was born in A.D.1627 at **Shivner** hill fort near Poona. His father was Shahji Bhonsle who worked under the Sultan of Bijapur.

His mother was Jija Bai. Later on, Shahji Bhonsle married Tukabai and neglected his first wife Jijabai and Shivaji. Hence he was brought up by his tutor and **Guru Dadaji Khonda Dev**. During his childhood he learned the Puranic legends and the stories of the Ramayana and the Mahabharatha through his mother. As a pious lady, his mother did a lot to mould the character of her son. His Guru trained him in horse-riding, warfare and also about the art of administration.



**Shivaji**

### **Conquests**

Shivaji wanted to establish an independent kingdom of his own. He conquered the forts of Purandhar, Raigarh, Torna and Kalyan from the sultan of Bijapur in A.D. 1646.

### **Shivaji and Bijapur Sultan**

To subdue Shivaji, the Sultan of Bijapur deputed **Afzal Khan** to bring

Shivaji, ( “Mountain-Rat” ) dead or alive in A.D. 1659. When Shivaji came to know the treacherous plan of Afzal khan, he made preparation to meet Afzal khan. At the appointed place, Afzal khan met and embraced Shivaji and tightened his grips. With his right hand, he tried to kill Shivaji but the Maratha chief tore Afzal khans bowels open with the help of the “Tiger Claws” (Baghnakh) Afzal Khan cried out in agony and fell down. This event raised the power and prestige of Shivaji.

### Shivaji and Mughals

In A.D.1660 Aurangzeb sent Sayistakhan, the Governor of Deccan to check the activities of Shivaji. Sayistakhan camped at Poona. At night, Shivaji entered the house in the form of a marriage party and attacked Sayistakhan, who was fast asleep. Sayistakhan escaped loosing his thumb.

Aurangzeb again sent Raja Jai Singh to deal with Shivaji. Shivaji was surrounded on all sides. Finding himself helpless, Shivaji agreed to come to terms with Jai Singh. In A.D.1665, Treaty of Purandhar was signed between them. Jai Singh persuaded Shivaji to meet Aurangzeb in his court. When Shivaji and his son Sambaji reached Agra in A.D.1666, they were not respected properly. Shivaji was upset and when he opposed it, he was imprisoned by Aurangzeb. But Shivaji pretended to be ill and escaped from the prison by hiding himself in a large basket filled with apple fruits. Aurangzeb called

Shivaji a “Mountain-Rat”. After the great escape Shivaji became the bitter enemy of Aurangzeb.

In A.D.1674, Shivaji got himself coronated at Raigarh and assumed the title of “Chatrapati”. A new Maratha Empire came into exist. The coronation ceremony cost the Royal treasury more. Due to the financial crisis, he was compelled to invade the carnatic region. He captured Jinji, Vellore and many other important forts. His kingdom included a large part of Mysore, Konkan and Maharashtra. Unfortunately, he did not live long. His reign lasted only for six years. He died in A.D.1680 at Raigarh.

### Administration of Shivaji

Shivaji was a great administrator. He always had the welfare of his people in his mind. He had a council of eight ministers called “Ashtapradhan” to assist his administration.

In whose court, were the “Ashtadiggajas”? “Navarathnas”?

1. Peshwa : Prime Minister
2. Mantri : Chronicler
3. Sachiv : Home Secretary
4. Sumant : Foreign Secretary
5. Senapathi : Commander-in-chief
6. Amatya : Finance Minister
7. Pandit Rao : Ecclesiastical Head
8. Nyayadhis : Chief Justice

Each minister was in charge of a department. The kingdom was divided into several provinces. They were further divided into Parganas



and villages. The territory under Shivaji was known as “Swarajya”.

### Revenue Administration

Shivaji abolished the Zamindari system. He had direct contact with the ryots (cultivators). The land was assessed after a careful survey. 2/5 of the produce was fixed as the share of the state. It would be paid either in cash or in kind. Loans were provided to the farmers in times of famine. His land revenue system had a resemblance of the system of Raja Todar Mal under Akbar. The state also collected custom duties and professional taxes. The two other important taxes collected during his time were **Chauth** and **Sardeshmuki**.

List out some taxes that we pay to our Government.

### Judicial Administration

Justice was administered according to Hindu Laws. Panchayats settled the disputes in the villages. Patel, an officer equal to the present day Tahsildar, enquired the criminal cases. All civil and criminal appeal cases were enquired by **Nyayadhis**, who was a member of Ashtapradhan.

### Military Administration

Shivaji was a great warrior and a military genius. He maintained a standing army with great discipline. His army consisted of infantry, cavalry, artillery, elephantry, camel corps and even navy. The cavalry was the most important. Forts

played a very important role and they were considered as “**Mother**”. Soldiers were paid regularly in cash and even after their death, their families were taken care of. Women were not permitted in the military camps. Standing corps should not be destroyed. Soldiers were given strict orders not to kill or torture women, children and the aged.

### Estimate

Shivaji was a born leader. Though an illiterate, he understood the complicated problems of the state and tackled them diplomatically. His greatness lies in creating a strong nation for the Marathas. He continued to be a formidable foe to the Mughals who were scared of his diplomatic moves. With a firm determination Shivaji had taken the glory of the Maratha kingdom to zenith.

### Successors of Shivaji

After the death of Shivaji, his eldest son Sambhaji ascended the throne. He was not as efficient as his father. Aurangzeb arrested Sambhaji and his son Sahu after capturing Bijapur and Golconda. Sambhaji was put to death. **Rajaram**, another son of Shivaji became the Chatrapathi. When he died in A.D.1700, his wife **Tara Bai** began to rule the empire on behalf of her minor son Shivaji-II. After Aurangzeb's death, Bahadur Shah I became the emperor. He released Sahu. A civil war broke out between Sahu and Tara Bai. Tara Bai was defeated and Sahu became the Maratha king in A.D.1708. His

success was mainly due to Balaji Viswanath, whom he appointed as the “Peshwa” or “Prime Minister”. As the successors of Shivaji were weak, the Peshwas became the actual rulers of the Maratha Empire, and proved to be an efficient administrators.

### **Peshwas**

The Prime Minister of the Maratha Empire was called the “Peshwa”. Their rule started from A.D.1713.

### **Peshwa Balaji Viswanath (1713 A.D-1720 A.D.)**

He became the first peshwa under the Maratha emperor Sahu. He was called as the founder of the peshwa rule. He made peshwaship hereditary. He appointed the feudal chiefs to collect the taxes like Chauth and Sardeshmuki. He revived the greatness of the Marathas. He died in 1720A.D.

### **Peshwa Baji Rao (1720 A.D-1740 A.D)**

After the death of Balaji Viswanath, his son Baji Rao became the Peshwa. On account of his great ability, he was generally regarded as the “greatest of the peshwas”. He wanted to expand the Maratha power in the north and followed a “Forward Policy”. He compelled the Nizam of Hyderabad to sign a peace treaty. He captured Bassein from the Portuguese and captured Thana and Salsette. He died in 1740 A.D. The Maratha empire became powerful in India during his period.

### **Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao (1740 A.D-1761 A.D.)**

He was the 3<sup>rd</sup> peshwa. He had the able guidance of his cousin Sadasiva Rao and the Maratha power attained its zenith in 1758 A.D. The Marathas occupied Punjab and the Maratha flag was unfurled over the fort of Attock. In 1761 A.D. the Maratha power reached its climax but they received a severe blow at the hands of Ahmad Shah Abdali.

### **The Third Battle of Panipat (A.D. 1761)**

The conquest and occupation of Punjab by the Marathas had brought them into conflicts with Ahmad Shah Abdali, the king of Afghanistan. He made huge preparations to invade India with the help of Nazib-ud-daulah of Rohilkhand and Shuja-ud-daulah of Oudh. He met the Maratha forces at the historic plains of Panipat in 1761 A.D. which were led by Sadasiva Rao. It was called third battle of Panipat. Sadasiva Rao over estimated his artillery strength. Abdali was able to cut off the line of communication of the Marathas. Initially, the Marathas had an upper hand but ultimately they were defeated. This battle decided the fate of Marathas. It lowered their prestige and paved the way for the rise of the British.

### **Causes for the defeat of the Marathas**

Maratha's policy of aggression and plunder brought their downfall. The Marathas lost the sympathies of their own religionists, Rajputs, Jats



and Sikhs. Ahmad Shah Abdali's army was well trained and disciplined than the Maratha army. The Marathas failed to get their regular supplies. The Maratha leaders were no match to Ahmad Shah Abdali.

After the third battle of Panipat, the Maratha empire continued to be ruled by inefficient peshwas. This led to the disintegration of the Maratha empire and paved the way for their insignificance in the history of India.

### **Invasion of Nadir Shah (A.D.1739)**

Nadir Shah was one of the greatest warriors of Persia. He was a mere shepherd who rose into prominence because of his abilities. In A.D.1739, he invaded India due to the following reasons.

He wanted to plunder the immense wealth of India. He also wanted to earn name and fame by conquering the distant territories. He came to know that India was ruled by a weak and incompetent ruler, Muhammad Shah.

### **Events**

He had sent an envoy to Muhammad Shah requesting him not to provide shelter to the Afghans fleeing from Khandhar and Ghazni. As Muhammad Shah did not care to send reply, Nadir Shah invaded India in A.D.1739. After capturing Peshawar, he faced the mughal army at Karnal. The Mughal emperor was defeated and Nadirshah marched towards Delhi to receive the huge war indemnity of

20 crore of rupees as promised by the Mughal emperor. He stayed 15 days at Delhi and plundered it. Thousands of residents of Delhi were killed. He did not spare the Mughal emperor and deprived him of the famous Kohi-noor Diamond and the Peacock Throne. After two months, Nadir Shah returned to his country with huge booty. However he was killed by his own soldiers in A.D.1747.

### **Results**

The invasion of Nadir Shah gave a death blow to the Mughal empire and hastened its downfall. It exposed the weakness of the Mughal empire to the world. The weakness of Mughals led to the rise of many powers like the Marathas, Jats, Sikhs, Rohillas etc. India was deprived of much of its wealth. In short, the invasion of Nadir Shah left the country quite "prostrate and bleeding".

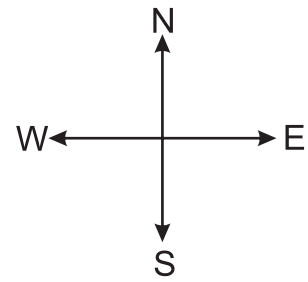
### **Invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali (A.D.1761)**

Ahmad Shah Abdali was the head of the Abdali tribe of the Afghans. He was made as the general by Nadirshah. On the demise of Nadirshah, Abdali became the ruler of Afghanistan. He invaded India many times from A.D. 1748 to A.D. 1767.

### **Causes**

He wanted to plunder the abundant wealth of India like Nadirshah. He also wanted to earn name and fame for himself through his invasions.

# Maratha's Empire



**Events**

Before facing the Marathas in the Third Battle of Panipat in A.D.1761, Abdali had invaded India for four times. After conquering, Punjab, he reached Delhi and plundered the city.

He had looted Mathura, Agra and several other places. In the Third Battle of Panipat in A.D.1761, he came out successful against the Marathas and shattered the Maratha power into pieces. In 1767, he invaded Punjab, against the Sikhs. But he could not proceed too far and returned to Afghanistan.

**Results**

The invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali gave a severe death blow to the Maratha empire. The wealth of India was plundered and thousands of people were killed. Due to Abdali's invasion, confusion prevailed in Punjab, which provided a golden opportunity to the Sikhs to establish their power. Ahmad Shah Abdali gave a crushing blow both to the Maratha and the Mughal emperors. It cleared the way for the British to establish their sovereignty in India.

**EXERCISE****I) Choose the correct answer.**

- The tutor of Shivaji was \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Dadaji Khonda dev    b) Shahji Bhonsle    c) Baji Rao
- Shivaji had a council of \_\_\_\_\_ ministers called "Ashtapradhan".  
a) seven                      b) eight                      c) nine
- The first Peshwa was \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) Balaji Viswanath        b) Balaji Baji Rao    c) Baji Rao
- Treaty of Purandhar was signed between \_\_\_\_\_ and Shivaji.  
a) Raja Jaisingh    b) Afzal khan        c) Shaistakhan

**II) Fill in the blanks.**

- The Marathas adopted \_\_\_\_\_ warfare.
- The Sultan of Bijapur sent \_\_\_\_\_ to subdue Shivaji.
- The Prime Minister of the Maratha Empire was called \_\_\_\_\_.
- After Aurangzeb's death \_\_\_\_\_ became the Mughal Emperor.

**III) Match the following.**

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Baji Rao          | Persia             |
| 2. Nadir Shah        | Ashtapradhan       |
| 3. Nyayadhish        | king of Afganistan |
| 4. Ahmad Shah Abdali | Forward policy     |

**IV) Answer in a word.**

1. When was the third Battle of Panipat fought?
2. In which year did Nadir Shah invade India?
3. When was the treaty of Purandhar signed?
4. Who was known as "Mountain – Rat"?

**V) Answer the following questions briefly.**

1. Explain briefly the conflict between Shivaji and Afzal Khan.
2. How did Shivaji attack Shaista Khan?
3. What were the causes for the defeat of the Marathas in the third battle of Panipat?
4. Write a note on the invasion of Nadirshah.

**VI) Answer in detail.**

1. Narrate the career and achievements of Shivaji.
2. Give an account of the Maratha Empire under the Peshwas.

**Formative Assessment**

1. Enact a drama on "Chatrapati Shivaji" in the class.
2. List out the present central and state minister's portfolios.
3. Discuss "The Guerilla Warfare".
4. Draw a timeline chart on the important events of the Marathas.